

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended): A process for preparing a polyisocyanate containing acylurea groups which comprises reacting an isocyanate corresponding to formula (I)



wherein

R represents an n-valent linear or branched aliphatic group or cycloaliphatic group having 4 to 30 carbon atoms or an aromatic group having 6 to 24 carbon atoms and

n is 1, 2, 3 or 4,

with a carboxylic acid compound consisting essentially of [[an]] aliphatic carboxylic acids, and/or aromatic carboxylic [[acid]] acids, and/or mixtures thereof in the presence of a metal-salt catalyst at a temperature of 20 to 220°C.

Claim 2. (Original): The process of Claim 1 wherein the catalyst comprises a member selected from the group consisting of salts of the elements of the first, second and third main group and the second and third subgroup of the periodic system of elements, and lanthanides.

Claim 3. (Currently Amended): The process of Claim 1 wherein the isocyanate comprises HDI, IPDI, TIN and/or H₁₂MDI-hexane diisocyanate, 3,5,5-trimethyl-1-isocyanato-3-isocyanatomethylcyclohexane, 3-isocyanatomethyl-1,8-diisocyanatooctane, and/or 4,4'-methylenebis(cyclohexylisocyanate).

Claim 4. (Original): The process of Claim 1 wherein the isocyanate comprises TDI, MDI toluene diisocyanate, diphenylmethane diisocyanate or 1,5-diisocyanatonaphthalene.

Claim 5. (Original): The process of Claim 1 wherein an aliphatic carboxylic acid is used and comprises acetic acid, hexanoic acid, adipic acid, azelaic acid, cyclohexanedicarboxylic acid and/or dodecanedioic acid.

Claim 6. (Original): The process of Claim 3 wherein an aliphatic carboxylic acid is used and comprises acetic acid, hexanoic acid, adipic acid, azelaic acid, cyclohexanedicarboxylic acid and/or dodecanedioic acid.

Claim 7. (Original): The process of Claim 4 wherein an aliphatic carboxylic acid is used and comprises acetic acid, hexanoic acid, adipic acid, azelaic acid, cyclohexanedicarboxylic acid and/or dodecanedioic acid.

Claim 8. (Original): The process of Claim 1 wherein an aromatic carboxylic acid is used and comprises phthalic acid.

Claim 9. (Original): The process of Claim 3 wherein an aromatic carboxylic acid is used and comprises phthalic acid.

Claim 10. (Original): The process of Claim 4 wherein an aromatic carboxylic acid is used and comprises phthalic acid.

Claim 11. (Currently Amended): A polyisocyanate containing acylurea groups which is prepared by reacting an isocyanate corresponding to formula (I)



wherein

R represents an n-valent linear or branched aliphatic group or cycloaliphatic group having 4 to 30 carbon atoms or an aromatic group having 6 to 24 carbon atoms and

Q3
wt
n is 1, 2, 3 or 4,
with a carboxylic acid compound consisting essentially of an aliphatic carboxylic acid, and/or an aromatic carboxylic acid, and mixtures thereof in the presence of a metal-salt catalyst at a temperature of 20 to 220°C.

Claim 12. (Original): The polyisocyanate of Claim 11 wherein the catalyst comprises a member selected from the group consisting of salts of the elements of the first, second and third main group and the second and third subgroup of the periodic system of elements, and lanthanides.

Q4
Claim 13. (Currently Amended): The polyisocyanate of Claim 11 wherein the isocyanate comprises ~~HDI, IPDI, TIN and/or H₁₂MDI~~ hexane diisocyanate, 3,5,5-trimethyl-1-isocyanato-3-isocyanatomethylcyclohexane, 3-isocyanatomethyl-1,8-diisocyanatooctane, and/or 4,4'-methylenebis(cyclohexylisocyanate).

Claim 14. (Original): The polyisocyanate of Claim 11 wherein the isocyanate comprises ~~TDI, MDI~~ toluene diisocyanate, diphenylmethane diisocyanate or 1,5-diisocyanatonaphthalene.

Claim 15. (Original): The polyisocyanate of Claim 11 wherein an aliphatic carboxylic acid is used and comprises acetic acid, hexanoic acid, adipic acid, azelaic acid, cyclohexanedicarboxylic acid and/or dodecanedioic acid.

Claim 16. (Original): The polyisocyanate of Claim 13 wherein an aliphatic carboxylic acid is used and comprises acetic acid, hexanoic acid, adipic acid, azelaic acid, cyclohexanedicarboxylic acid and/or dodecanedioic acid.

Claim 17. (Original): The polyisocyanate of Claim 14 wherein an aliphatic carboxylic acid is used and comprises acetic acid, hexanoic acid, adipic acid, azelaic acid, cyclohexanedicarboxylic acid and/or dodecanedioic acid.

Claim 18. (Original): The polyisocyanate of Claim 11 wherein an aromatic carboxylic acid is used and comprises phthalic acid.

Claim 19. (Original): The polyisocyanate of Claim 13 wherein an aromatic carboxylic acid is used and comprises phthalic acid.

Claim 20. (Original): The polyisocyanate of Claim 14 wherein an aromatic carboxylic acid is used and comprises phthalic acid.

Claim 21. (Original): A polyurethane coating composition containing a binder comprising the polyisocyanate of Claim 11.